(c) Eight retired engineers were sent to Munich, West Germany, One of these eight engineers was sent to United States as well for Intermediate Maintenance Course on Garrett. The training was at the manufacturers cost. The amount spent by Vayudoot on the travelling and living expenses was Rs. 2 lacs approximately.

(d) and (e) These engineers held valid licences and experience for certification on other types of aircraft Since Dornier-228 was being imported and operated for the first time, the engineers were required to be trained for obtaining type endorsement of their licences for this aircraft.

(f) Re-employment is resorted to as a stopgap arrangement and only where absolutely unavoidable. As and when Vayudoot builds up its own cadre of engineers, the retired engineers will not be re-employed.

(g) The number of superannuated staff engaged by Vayudoot for irgular Jobs is 6.

Loss of coal in Railway transit

1724. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 7m. tonnes of coal is lost in rail transit every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The actual loss of coal in transit cannot be correctly ascertained. However, the number of claims paid and the amount of compensation paid by the Railways on account of shortage and pilferage of coal during the last two years was as under:—

Year	No. of claims paid	Amount paid as compensation
1984-85	759	62·35
1985-86	823	59·47

(c) some of the steps taken by the Railways to prevent pilferage of coal during rail transit include:—

(i) Wherever possible, Railway Protection Force personnel are deployed to escort block-loads of coal wagons in crime prone sections and for patrolling of vulnerable yards.

(ii) Fixed pickets are posted in vulnerable sections and at black spots to prevent thefts of coal from running trains.

(iii) Crime intelligence staff are deployed to collect crime intelligence about the activities of coal thieves and receivers, and conduct raids on them for the recovery of stolen coal and arrest of criminals/receivers.

Four wheeler vehicles in Delhi

1725. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of 4 wheeler vehicles in Delhi had increased enormously, during the last two years;

(b) the number of such vehicles in Delhi as compared with other metropolitan cities of the country at present and

(c) the reasons for such a sudden increase of such vehicles in Delhi?